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Web Audio: http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/multimedia/ui_state.mp3

JULY UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED

Adjusted Data

Madison – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today announced that Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for July was 4.7 percent, the lowest rate for that month in four years. The national seasonally adjusted rate for July is 5.0 percent, unchanged from the June rate, also reported at 5.0 percent. Wisconsin's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.6 percent last month and 4.9 percent in July 2004.

The July 2005 4.7 percent seasonally adjusted unemployment rate is the lowest July rate Wisconsin has experienced since July 2001, when it was 4.5 percent.

"Wisconsin's labor market improved again in July by posting the lowest July unemployment rate since July 2001, when the rate was 4.5 percent," Secretary Gassman said. "It is certainly gratifying that Wisconsin's labor market continues to demonstrate improving conditions, but there remains considerable economic and workforce development work to be done in particular areas of the state, areas that have not been benefiting from improving conditions as fully as have other communities."

Unadjusted Data

Wisconsin's unadjusted unemployment rate dropped from 4.8 percent in June to 4.6 percent in July, in preliminary July figures released by the Department of Workforce Development. The July unemployment rate is also down from last year's July figure of 4.8 percent. Although the estimated number employed dropped slightly, the number unemployed also dropped. This is a normal occurrence in July and can be almost entirely attributed to the school year and the method of counting school teachers out-of-work for the summer. Most teachers are not-at-work in July and August and thus are not counted as employed. Most are also not counted as unemployed however, as they are awaiting return to work for the fall school year. The term unemployed means out-of-work and searching for a job, or laid-off from a job and anticipating recall to that job. Teachers have generally not been laid off.

The total number of nonfarm wage and salary jobs in Wisconsin decreased from 2,869,300 to 2,844,100 between June and July. However, the decrease was largely contained in the local government - education sector as the school year ended for the summer. Local government – education jobs dropped 29,800 from June to July. Increases were reported for construction, manufacturing, financial activities, professional and business services, and leisure and hospitality services. In addition to the job decreases in local government, slight decreases were also reported in education and health care services; trade, transportation and utilities; and information services.

Total Wisconsin nonfarm wage and salary jobs are up 19,900 from last year's July figure, and have been averaging an additional 26,900 jobs above last year's monthly figures through the first seven months of the year.

July employment and unemployment figures for individual counties will be available August 24, 2005. This release also is available at <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/>.

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WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY
In Thousands

ITEM	PRELIM. JUL 05	FINAL JUN 05	YEAR AGO JUL 04	NET CHANGE FROM	
				MONTH AGO	YEAR AGO
PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES				
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3081.7	3093.0	3115.6	-11.3	-33.9
UNEMPLOYMENT	140.8	148.3	150.6	-7.5	-9.8
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.6	4.8	4.8	-0.2	-0.2
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2941.0	2944.7	2965.1	-3.7	-24.1
PLACE OF WORK DATA					
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2844.1	2869.3	2824.2	-25.2	19.9
TOTAL PRIVATE	2460.4	2455.3	2439.8	5.1	20.6
GOODS PRODUCING	661.6	655.3	651.8	6.3	9.8
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	3.9	3.9	4.2	0.0	-0.3
CONSTRUCTION	145.8	143.5	138.9	2.3	6.9
MANUFACTURING	511.9	507.9	508.7	4.0	3.2
Durable Goods	314.4	315.4	314.3	-1.0	0.1
Nondurable Goods	197.5	192.5	194.4	5.0	3.1
SERVICE PRODUCING	2182.5	2214	2172.4	-31.5	10.1
TRADE	435.4	434.2	434.0	1.2	1.4
Wholesale Trade	119.2	119.3	116.2	-0.1	3.0
Retail Trade	316.2	314.9	317.8	1.3	-1.6
TRANS., WAREHOUSE, & UTILITIES	106.5	108.8	105.9	-2.3	0.6
Utilities	11.6	11.7	11.8	-0.1	-0.2
Information	50.1	50.9	49.7	-0.8	0.4
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	159.7	159.5	158.7	0.2	1.0
Finance and Insurance	130	130	129.9	0.0	0.1
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	29.7	29.5	28.8	0.2	0.9
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	259.4	258.2	256.2	1.2	3.2
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	88.2	88.5	88.8	-0.3	-0.6
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	39	39.5	39.8	-0.5	-0.8
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	132.2	130.2	127.6	2.0	4.6
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	376.4	379.6	373.7	-3.2	2.7
Educational Services	42.5	46.5	44.8	-4.0	-2.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	333.9	333.1	328.9	0.8	5.0
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	274.4	271.7	272.5	2.7	1.9
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	41.2	41.6	42.7	-0.4	-1.5
Accommodation & Food Services	233.2	230.1	229.8	3.1	3.4
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin	136.9	137.1	137.3	-0.2	-0.4
GOVERNMENT	383.7	414	384.4	-30.3	-0.7
Federal Government	29.2	29.3	29.8	-0.1	-0.6
State Government	95.9	95.6	95.2	0.3	0.7
Local Government	258.6	289.1	259.4	-30.5	-0.8
PERSONS INVOLVED IN L-M DISPUTES	267.0	267.0	0.0	0.0	267.0
(1) Includes L-M Disputes					
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3031.0	3038.2	3071.4	-7.2	-40.4
UNEMPLOYMENT	143.3	139.3	150.5	4.0	-7.2
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.7	4.6	4.9	0.1	-0.2
EMPLOYMENT	2887.7	2898.9	2920.9	-11.2	-33.2

*Differences in totals may occur as a result of rounding.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Labor Market Information Section, Bureau of Workforce Information